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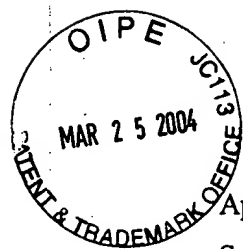
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Attorney Docket No. 32144183-000009

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kwok on LAI, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/157,984  
TITLE: CLONING OF A NOVEL NEUROTROPHIN NT-7 FROM CARP  
Filing Date: September 22, 1998  
Art Unit: 1647  
Examiner: R. Hayes

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are timely submitted for the Examiner's consideration with the accompanying Petition for One Month Extension of Time and fee. Applicants concurrently file herewith a Notice of Appeal under 37 CFR 1.17(b) with accompanying fee.

**Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.**

**Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.**

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL**  
**EV 417296668 US**

I, Pamela J. Wong, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail, Express Mail Number EV417296668 US addressed to Mail Stop: AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria Virginia 22313-1450 on the date shown below

Date of transmission: March 25, 2004

Signature: 

Pamela J. Wong